THE LIVING WORLD

'Defining property of living organisms' means that, it is a property present in all living organisms but NOT found in non-living things.

Some imp. properties of Living Being

(I) GROWTH :

→ All living organisms grow.

Increase in mass and increase in number of individuals/cells are the twin characteristics of growth.

→ In plants, growth by cell division occurs continuously throughout their life span.

In animals, growth is seen only upto certain age. However, cell division occurs in certain tissues to replace the lost cells.

→ Growth in living organisms is from inside i.e, intrinsic i.e, protoplasmic.

Non-living things also grow (Eg) sand-dunes, mountains, sugar crystals etc. but growth here is due to deposition of materials i.e, extrinsic.

⊛ Thereby, growth cannot be taken as a defining property of living organisms.

NOTE:

'Intrinsic growth' is considered as the defining property of living organisms